

PETROCKSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held in the Baxter Hall on
Tuesday 21st March 2017 at 7.30pm.

Councillors present: I Fisher (Chair), J Harris (Vice), D Kelsey, A Hunkin, B
Cameron, M Busby, County Cllr A Boyd (late), F Lowe (Clerk).

Apologies of Absence. Apologies were received from Cllr J Jeffs and PCSO
Baker. District Cllr R Wiseman was not present.

51. **Declarations of Interest.** None

52. **Public Session.** Fred Caure of Church Cottages sent the Chairman a
message regarding installation of a SWW meter for MoonChild Brewery.
Permission was requested to dig across the car park with the work
expected to take 2 days. There were no objections from Cllrs provided
that the Church is contacted in advance to ensure that there were no
planned services during the works. Clerk to contact Fred Caure.

53. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 17th
January 2017 having been previously circulated, were amended to
reflect that the date of the Recreation Ground Fete has been changed to
15th July. The minutes were then approved and signed as a correct
record.

54. **Planning.** Ref: 1/0168/2017/FUL, 9th March 2017 for a proposed
livestock building at Heanton Barton Farm, Petrockstowe, Devon – No
objections. The public consultation regarding the pre-application of a 21
house Residential Development on Land Adjacent to Oaklands took
place on 3rd February and a follow up meeting is planned for 4th April
from 6.00pm. Cllr Fisher has contacted SWW who advised that the
sewage treatment plant would be upgraded to cope if necessary but no
further information was given.

55. **Councillors Reports.**

- a) **Recreation Ground.** Cllr Kelsey gave the confirmed dates for the
Sports Day as 10th June and the Fete as 15th July. Cllr Kelsey has asked
the Chair of the Rec Grd to hold a meeting as the last meeting was on
8th December 2016. Cllr Kelsey applied for a £5,000 grant for new
signs and an electronic screen board but it was refused.
- b) **Play Area.** The Art Group have produced designs for the wall and will
decide which scene to paint. £60 had been raised at the Quiz night to
put towards paint.

- c) **Baxter Hall.** Cllr Busby reported that the After Dinner Speaker on 11th March was well received. There are still a couple of leaks in the roof and the electrical problem needs resolving for insurance purposes. Forthcoming events are: Fashion Show – 4th April, Beer Festival – 20th May and Easter Bingo. The hall will be used on 4th May for Local Elections.
- d) **County & District Report.** CCllr Boyd will be re-standing at the forthcoming elections. Highways received extra funding for filling potholes and Cllr Boyd was able to secure a large share for Torrington Rural Area (£220,000). With Highways, a list of 12/13 roads across the area have been selected to have work done. A list will be provided to confirm that these are the priorities for local people. There will be £10,000 available from the County Council for local councils in the next financial year.
- e) **Police Report.** Up to 300 PCSO's may be replaced by 100 armed officers. In Torrington, one PCSO has left, one is now joint Fire/Police and one remains as Police.
- f) **TAAG.** Cllr Kelsey attended on 31st January and reported that with Lloyds closing on 29th June, Nationwide will be the only Bank/Building Society left in Torrington. There was a discussion regarding self-build housing in Holsworthy. Waste and recycling needs to be at 50% by 2020 and is currently 43%. Deep Moor is filling up. Garden waste collection will be available at a cost of £35 per annum and a proposal for 2 weekly black bin collections was discussed. Overall Torridge covers 384 square miles for waste collection compared with 250 square miles for Exeter. The Local Plan is being challenged and £3.19 million has been allocated to repairing potholes. Within Devon there has been a cut of £290 per pupil and Business rates have risen to 10%. The Boundary Commission is reviewing North Devon Boundaries. There are currently no publicly available electric car charging points within North Devon.

56. Matters arising from last PCM Minutes.

- a) **APM.** Richard Haste from Waste & Recycling, TDC, has confirmed that he will give a presentation. Some Parish groups have responded and Clerk will send reminders to all groups. Cllrs will provide cakes and Clerk/Chair will provide drinks.
- b) **Recreation Ground.** The current Rec Grd committee has not met since December. At the Cricket Club AGM it was agreed by a show of hands to take over the running of the Rec Grd and rename it the Petrockstowe Sports & Social Club. It was proposed by Cllr Busby to ask the current committee to meet and dissolve the Rec Grd Committee and make a resolution for the Cricket Club to take over.

This was seconded by Cllr Kelsey. The new PSSC would be financially independent and autonomous from the Parish Council, although the PC will retain the land tenancy from Lord Burnett.

- c) **Land Registry.** The Clerk has acquired documentation from TDC required by Land Registry to update contact details. Quotes from solicitors range from £20-£200 to complete verification. The Clerk was given permission to proceed with best value.
- d) **Play Park repairs to wall.** Cllr Hunkin will ask Will Matthews to give a quote to repair the wall.

57. Current Business.

- a) **Report on Defibrillator.** It was noted by Cllr Fisher that the battery low indicator light had come on during a weekly check. On contacting the supplier, the battery was replaced under the warranty and now has a new 4-year warranty. Several parishioners have commented that the green box housing the defibrillator is looking "shabby". As the cost of a purpose made waterproof box is approx. £600 it was decided that no further action would be taken.
- b) **Transparency code requirements.** The Clerk attended the course provided by DALC on 23rd February to ensure that all requirements are met. All Parish Meeting documents must be on the website dating back to April 2015 and the Department of Communication and Local Government will be reviewing websites to ensure that documents are visible.
- c) **Dates of Meetings 2017/2018.** The Clerk provided the Council with a list of proposed meeting dates.
- d) **Road Surface at Huxditch, between Winswell and Rosebank.** This item was discussed out of order (after cllrs reports) to allow CCllr Boyd to leave the meeting. Cllr Hunkin has received several complaints from parishioners regarding the road surface. Cllr Boyd replied that it is possibly on the list as previously mentioned. Advised parishioners to report the poor condition as often as possible as it will then get more attention.

58. Financial Matters.

- a) Financial Report. A copy was given to all Cllrs and showed a bank balance of £6,884.59.
- b) Cheques approved and raised:
 - i. Rebinding of historical document. Cllr Fisher purchased tape and card and repaired the document which has now been passed to Ann Luxton for the History Group to store. £6.45 included in cheque below.
 - ii. Defibrillator battery. Provided FOC

Continuation of PCM minutes on 21st March 2017

- iii. Notice Board £106.80. Cheque 339 for £113.25 (incl £6.45 above) payable to Cllr Fisher signed by Cllrs Hunkin and Harris.
- iv. Clerks Expenses. Cheque no 340 for £42.65 payable to F Lowe signed by Cllrs Hunkin and Fisher.
- v. Baxter Hall rent. Cheque 341 for £90 (6 meetings @ £15) payable to Baxter Hall signed by Cllrs Hunkin and Fisher.
- vi. DALC Membership. Cheque no 342 for £97.48 payable to DALC signed by Cllrs Hunkin and Fisher.

The Annual Parish Meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 18th April 2017 with a provisional Planning Meeting to follow if required. The Annual Meeting was confirmed as 9th May 2017, in the Chapel Meeting Room, followed by a Parish Council Meeting if required.

With no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Chairman Date